

## South King County Projects Update

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### South King County traffic closures this week

Most crews are on a holiday break this week, except crews on the I-5 – S. 317<sup>th</sup> Project. Those crews will stop work for the New Year's weekend at noon on Friday, Dec. 30. Crews on all projects will resume work on Tuesday, Jan. 3.

#### Interstate 5

- Expect daytime and nighttime lane closures on southbound I-5 between Military Road and S. 320<sup>th</sup> as follows:
  - Wednesday through Friday, the left lane will be closed from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. (noon on Friday) for paving, weather permitting.
  - Wednesday and Thursday nights the right lane will be closed from midnight to 8 a.m. for electrical and sign work.
- The closures will be coordinated to assure that only one lane will be closed at a time.

### Year in review: I-5 – South 317<sup>th</sup> Street HOV Direct Access



To wrap up our review of south King County projects we've highlighted over the past year, this week's focus is the [I-5 – South 317<sup>th</sup> Street HOV Direct Access Project](#). We're building HOV on and off-ramps in the I-5 median at S. 317<sup>th</sup> Street in Federal Way. We're also extending the HOV lanes from Military Road to just south of S. 320<sup>th</sup> and have improved northbound and southbound I-5 pavement in the project area. The project will ease congestion and enhance safety for all drivers by eliminating the need for buses, carpools and vanpools to merge through three lanes of traffic to enter and exit the freeway at S. 317<sup>th</sup>.

Crews began construction on this project in June 2004. Activities in 2005 included:

- Setting four [100-ton concrete girders](#) for the new S. 317<sup>th</sup> bridge in February
- [Replacing southbound I-5 pavement](#) near S. 317<sup>th</sup> – completed in June. We then moved traffic off of the temporary roadway in the median that drivers had been using since October 2004.
- Building a [roundabout](#) during a twenty-day closure of the intersection of S. 317<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. in September.

- Building retaining walls throughout the project, improving pavement, and [widening the northbound I-5 bridge](#) over Military Road.
- Building [direct access on- and off-ramps](#) in the I-5 median.

We originally expected to complete this project in fall 2005 but completion has been delayed due to inclement weather, plan errors and contractor mistakes. We now expect to open the HOV ramps and bridge to traffic in early 2006. This project is primarily funded by [Sound Transit](#).

## **A happy and safe new year**

All of us at WSDOT would like to wish you a happy new year, and remind you to use our roadways safely, especially at this time of celebration. If you see a vehicle showing signs of driver impairment, please find a safe place to pull off the road and dial 9-1-1, or have a passenger make the call. You could save a life. And if you drink, use a designated driver, a taxi, a bus - just don't get behind the wheel. We'll see you in 2006.

## **Highway advisory radio updates**

Tune your radio to 1520 AM to hear a new project update each week on I-5 in Federal Way. Questions or comments? E-mail [Laura Johnson](#).